with reverence. Would that this idea prevailed to a greater extent. In some place, the most ugly, desolate, brier-choked spot is the grave yard. If there is a spot that ought to be regarded with love, it is the place where rest the bodies of our loved ones.

Our Sunday School Work.—Bro. Roberts continues during the year as superintendent, with a good company of officers and teachers, except the assistant supt. The less said about him the better. The school now numbers about one hundred and fifty. During the past year sixteen scholars have joined church. We have but few families we can draw from, that is but few families having children. I now have in mind five families in the church who have no children. So the work done has been good. May the coming year be a good one, and may many more come to Christ.

We had Xmas services, consisting of singing, reading the scripture, and prayer. Now for more hard earnest work. May every lick tell, and the object for which Christ died be accomplished.

More Truth Than Poetry.—I called to see Bro. Kolb a few days ago, and while there grandmother Kolb, showed me some lines in the shape of a puzzle. They contain such a good point, that I copied them, leaving out the puzzle formation.

"I once had money and a friend
Of which I set great store;
I lent my money to my friend;
And took his word therefor.
I asked my money of my friend,
And naught but words I got;
I lost my money and my friend,
For sue him I would not.
At length with money came my friend,
Which pleased me wondrous well;
So I got my money, but my friend
Away quite from me fell.
If I had money and a friend
As I have had before,
I'd keep my money and my friend,
And play the fool no more."

If I was to bring all my sorrows and all my joys to a focus, it would amount to this, I am sorry I am such a great sinner, I am glad that Christ is such a great Saviour.

JOHN DUKE MCFADEN.

Miamisburg and Little York.

We heartily thank or friends for the many kind congratulations they have extended toward us. And we pray that God will help us to be more useful in his service.

On Thursday evening, the 22, a number of students, headed by Bro. and sister Perry, paid us a visit. The quiet dignity and delicate manner with which they showed their friendship and good will, by presenting us with a beautiful "water set," as a token of their respect, made us feel glad. We hope that the friendships of earth may continue to develop through life until it will ripen into that Christian love that will live forever in eternity.

After February 1st, 1888, we will be very glad to entertain our friends at our new home, corner Williams and Holt Streets, Dayton, Ohio.

On Friday, the 23rd, I went to Miamisburg to fill our usual appointment. Notwithstanding that there were some Christmas entertainments in the neighborhood, we had a very good audience.

The next morning, Saturday, all our members met at the new church. The structure is a credit to our brotherhood. It is now in the hands of the carpenter, and in a few weeks will be ready for use.

We decided that we would be ready to dedicate on Sunday, Feb. 12th. However we will announce the day and program with certainty after our next visit there in two weeks.

We filled our regular appointment at Little York. Here, too, we had very good congregations.

During the last year I have not always been on hand at my appointments. But I always sent a substitute, so that the cause did not suffer through my absence.

The congregations speak very highly of the services of Brethren Perry and Kilhefner, who filled my appointments on several occasions.

Brother Kilhefner protracted the usual appointment at Pleasant Hill, over a week; but we have not heard the actual result only that it was successful.

I have decided that during the coming year, I will pay very close attention to the three congregations that I have decided to serve: namely, Miamisburg, Little York and Pleasant Hill. It will only be for a very special purpose that I will condescend to miss any of the appointments during the coming year.

During a late visit to Cincinnati I attended a spiritualistic seance, and some time in the future I will give our readers the benefit of my visit to this great humbug.

Did you ever notice how that, whenever anything of importance happens, we have a lot of people who will look very knowingly and say, "I told you so."

A brother remarked to me a few days ago, that "we were a good deal worse than people generally think we are." Since hearing the remark it has made a great impression on me, and I see more truthfulness in it than appeared at first sight. When our actions are judged by the spotless purity of God's truth, they appear quite differently when looked at through the warped spectacles of our human judgment.

Our next appointment at Miamisburg will be Friday evening, Jan. 6th.

The quarterly council meeting will be held at Mt. Zion, Hocking Co., on Saturday, Jan. 14th, at which we hope to be present, so I hope there will be a general turn out.

EDWARD MASON.

Endeavors.

Miss Laura E. N. Grossnickle writes me: "And now, as to that Society for Christian Endeavor, I rejoiced at the first mention of it in the EVANGELIST, and am willing to give it my assistance in any way I can. Here I am, what wilt thou have me do? I am not well enough acquainted with the object of the Society to say much upon it but I am all ready and willing to learn and to work. Let me hear from you quite soon."

I hope it is a cause for rejoicing to all our sisters and that they are as willing to give it their support. One object of this Society shall be to remedy any evil we find existing in our homes and churches; and another shall be the raising of a fund for missionary purpose at home and abroad, and for the support of an evangelist in the Brethren church.

The editor, A. L. Garber, writes me concerning the constitution, and hopes that we shall receive such encouragement as we should from the brotherhood, and will be able to commence active work in a short time.

Their practical work for our Society will be the best encouragement we can get, but we want their sympathy before we can graciously accept their services. His suggestions increase our faith in what the contents of a constitution ought to be for the good of our sisterhood and the purpose we have in mind; and his encouragement, too, is of that kind which we need and will assist us in getting the constitution adopted, and in the organization of branch societies.

Elder E. L. Yoder forwards more names of sisters with whom to corresponed. We wish every pastor of our brotherhood would do likewise. The work could be saved much delay. It is the voluntary assistance that we prize the more, and need to get these societies into operation.

P. J. Brown sends the addresses of M. Lizzie Beeghly and Clara A. Miller. Thank you brother Brown. I have written to these sisters, but have not yet had time to receive their answers. I will be pleased to write to any one whom you would direct me.

This from H. R. H.: "In reply to yours will say, I think you had better just proceed with your work, and frame a constitution and by laws to suit your especial work. I would recommend sister E. M. Sigerfoose. (Not M. E. but E. M.) She is almost totally absorbed in Temperance work, being an active member of the W. C. T. U."

The constitution is almost finished, and will be published in the EVANGELIST. We have tried to make it suit our especial work; but we scarcely hear a bird sing that we do not think another may have a sweeter song. Perfection is like to-morrow. It never comes. When it does come, it is imperfection.

I beg the pardon of E. M. Sigerfoose for getting her name inside out. Well, we want temperance in our society, too, and she will make a good superintendent for this work.

"In complying with your request in last EVANGELIST, I will send you my own address and also the addresses of several of the sisters of this church, whom I think will be willing workers in your Society. Please write and give us instructions how and what to do."

I would like to receive about ten letters, similar to this, every mail, until this work is properly organized in each church in the sisterhood. It is signed, Belle F. Shidler, and contains the addresses of Mrs. Belle Moore, Mrs. Phebe Holder and Miss Ida Tombaugh.

What our Treasurer thinks.

Mrs. Keim writes: "I should be very happy to give you a plan by which to get our sisters all to work together, if I could, but I suppose one way will be for us to get out the constitution as soon as possible, and send them out to the churches with a letter urging them to prompt action."

You are correct. The plan by which to get our sisters to work together is to bring them into sympathy and union by means of a society. This is the purpose of the S. S. C. E. When that is once accomplished, and branch societies properly organized and in good, active order all over our sisterhood, being united by each having adopted one and the same constitution and by-laws, forming the national Sisters' Society for Christian Endeavor, such a cord being so light in its binding, but so strong in its power for sympathy and affection; we can then move together as one earnest person with a high ideal, unmindful of the tie that binds us, scarcely conscious of the attraction that holds us, but full of energy and zeal for the good of our homes, our churches, our country, our race and our God; true to each other, and loyal to the name of Christ and his new commandment, working for the eradication of any evil that exists to the detriment of human happiness here and hereafter.

I have used these extracts from letters to aid me in explaining unto the public *what it is*. I hope those who have written them will take it kindly.

I like impatient children, eager for their teacher's instruction before she is ready to impart it. When grown to manhood and womanhood, inured to labor, they make up the thinking world, and move the masses into a better living. But brother Brown is scarcely a child, though he is anxious for his duties.

M. M. STERLING.

Masontown, Pa.

College Work.

Dear Bro.—Allow me to congratulate you in the successful effort to set before the general Brotherhood the unquestionable Title of Ashland College. The two page article in No. 52, containing the Charter and Title, gives more information and is worth more to the College than anything that could have been said in its favor at this time. The Title is invested in the Trustees and the Trustees are members of the Brethren church. Ought to be and is good enough. What more could we want or desire? And now, brethren, since it is a demonstrated fact that the College is ours, if paid for, I move that we make one more grand effort all along the lines and raise every cent that we can to set our College on its feet.

We should not "weary in well doing" is an old maxim, but full of truth. When we weary, the thing lags. Access was gained to the promised land by 40 years' windings and circuitous travel, of crossing and recrossing the same paths. The walls of Jericho fell after a succession of compassing about; Ruth gleaned the fields of Boaz, but the next year the same fields were ready for a second gleaning; the Jews paid tithes year by year. If our College is ever freed from debt. We must cross the same paths, encompass the same wall, glean the same fields, and pay the same tithes until the good work is accomplished.

Dear Brethren and sisters, I heartily confess that I have not stood by our College as I ought to have done, but it was because I was afraid of the Title. Hundreds of our brethren had the same weakness, but we were too distrustful, and I hope that our good and faithful brethren who have so nobly stood by this Institution and sustained it, will forgive us. Now let us, who have been a little tardy and neglectful and suspicious, come forward and do our duty by helping to lift this debt. In the Salem church, Howard Co., Ind., the matter of collecting is in the hands of Bro. Sam Eikenberry. In the Roann congregation, sister Sallie Zook and Sister Priscilla Owen will solicit and receive donations for this purpose, and at my next regular appointment at Bunker Hill will have two active workers appointed in that congregation. The duty of these solicitors will be to make a full canvass of their territory and collect from willing ones all they can. More anon.

J. W. FITZGERALD.

Dedication.

Our dedication has been deferred until the second Sunday in January 1888. All are invited to come.

E. B. SHAVER.

Maurertown, Va.

Cards of Thanks.

To our many brethren and sisters and neighbors who so kindly remembered us in a substantial way, on the 28th, of Dec. 1887. We were completely surprised by a grand ingathering of our brethren and sisters and neighbors. With many thanks and an invitation for a future repetition we subscribe ourselves

J. W. AND M. A. FITZGERALD.

OUR CHURCH.

Sister Laura Ebersole sends one dollar for the College.

G. W. Myers sends three dollars and fifty cents from Sabetha, Kans.

Bro. A. A. Cober conducted a meeting at Farmersville recently. Result five accessions.

Bro. W. S. Jacobs will commence a meeting near Chatham, Ohio, next Lord's Day.

James Skelly, of Milford, Ind., has sent in thirty of the fifty dollars pledged at the convention.

Bro. David Lowman of West Alexandria, O., was duly installed as deacon last Saturday morning.

Sister Mary Sterling is working very faithfully to start the Society of Christian Endeavor in good style.

Take notice that the Brethren church at Maurertown, Va., will be dedicated next Lord's Day, Jan. 8th.

The new church at West Alexandria, O., is drawing near completion. In a few weeks it will be ready for dedication.

The probability is that Bro. Tombaugh will preach for the Farmersville and Winchester congregation, at least part of this year.

L. W. Ditch sends twelve dollars from Dunlaps, Ind., three dollars additional were paid at the convention. He says his members will about all pay their donation.

Eld. H. S. Jacobs, of the Homer church, O., sends in twenty-six dollars with six dollars paid at the convention, thirty-two dollars in all. Well done, Homer.

Bro. Mason was attending a council meeting at Lexington, Preble Co., O. He put in the whole of Saturday night traveling so as to be at home to attend the services on Sunday morning in the College.

Sister Catharine Mahan, of Berthoud, Colorado, sends one dollar for the College, and states that they are expecting Bro. W. J. H. Bauman there to hold a series of meetings.

Church membership is said to have increased from 10 to 40 per cent, since Prohibition went into effect in Kansas.